

CLAIMS

1. A process for the preparation of crystalline anionic clay-containing bodies from sources comprising a trivalent metal source and a divalent metal source comprising the steps of:
- 5 a) preparing a precursor mixture containing a liquid, at least one of a divalent metal source and a trivalent metal source, at least one of them being insoluble in the liquid;
- b) shaping the precursor mixture to obtain shaped bodies; and
- 10 c) aging the shaped bodies to obtain crystalline anionic clay-containing bodies;
- with the proviso that if either of a divalent or trivalent metal source is not present in the precursor mixture of step a), such source is added to the shaped bodies after shaping step b) and before aging step c);
- 15 and with the further proviso that the combined use of an aluminium source as the trivalent metal source and a magnesium source as the divalent metal source is excluded.
2. The process of claim 1 wherein the shaped bodies are thermally treated between steps b) and c);
- 20 3. The process of claim 1 wherein additives are added in the aging step.
4. The process of claim 1 wherein the precursor mixture contains a divalent metal source and a trivalent metal source.
- 25 5. The process of claim 1 wherein the precursor mixture is pre-aged prior to shaping step b).
- 30 6. The process of claim 4 wherein in step a) a trivalent metal source and a magnesium source are combined to obtain a precursor mixture.

7. The process of claim 1 wherein the trivalent metal source is present in the precursor mixture and a divalent metal source is added after the shaping step b) and wherein the trivalent metal source is selected from the group consisting of oxides, hydroxides, carbonates, hydroxy carbonates and combinations thereof.
8. The process of claim 1 wherein a divalent metal source is present in the precursor mixture and a trivalent metal source is added after the shaping step b) and wherein the divalent metal source is selected from the group consisting of oxides, hydroxides, carbonates, hydroxy carbonates and combinations thereof.
9. The process of claim 1 wherein the trivalent metal source is selected from aluminium trihydrate, its thermally treated form or boehmite.
10. The process of claim 1 wherein the trivalent metal source comprises kaolin, phosphated kaolin, bentonite, metakaolin and/or bauxite.
11. The process of claim 1 wherein the divalent metal source comprises magnesium oxide.
12. The process of claim 1 wherein aging step c) comprises more than one step in which aging is conducted.
13. The process of claim 12 wherein there are intermediate drying steps between aging steps.
14. The process of claim 13 wherein one or more drying steps are followed by calcining.
15. The process of claim 1 wherein additives are added in step a).

16. The process of claim 1 wherein additives are added after the shaping step b).
17. The process of claim 12 wherein additives are added in any one of the
5 aging steps.
18. A crystalline anionic clay-containing shaped body obtained by the process of claim 1.
- 10 19. A crystalline anionic clay-containing body wherein binding material is present in the body in a discontinuous phase.
20. A crystalline anionic clay-containing body according to claim 18 wherein alumina is present.
- 15 21. A crystalline anionic clay-containing body according to claim 18 wherein magnesia is present.
22. A shaped body containing thermally treated anionic clay obtained by
20 thermally treating a crystalline anionic clay-containing body of claim 18.
23. A composite particle comprising a crystalline anionic clay-containing body of claim 18 which is embedded in binder material.
- 25 24. A composite particle comprising a shaped body containing thermally treated anionic clay of claim 22.
25. A process for the purification and/or separation of organic compounds in a hydrocarbon stream wherein a crystalline anionic clay-containing body of
30 claim 18 is contacted with said hydrocarbon stream.

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